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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Shipyard in Gehlsdorf near Rostock

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1. In October 1950, the total personnel of the shipyard in Gehlsdorf was 639 persons, including the clerical staff. Of this total, 82 persons were employed in administration, 100 in construction survey, 80 in locksmith, engine building and mechanical shops, 30 at the wood-working saws, and 260 persons in shipbuilding. An additional 42 apprentices and trainees also worked in the shipyard, and the remainder were watchmen, general workers, etc. There was also a Volkspolizei detail of 18 police at the shipyard, but they were not considered part of the shipyard personnel. A harbor gang of 25 was available.

2. Five fishing cutters were under construction in October 1950. Five other cutters were already afloat, waiting for their engines to be delivered by the MAK firm in Kiel. The delivery of the engines could not be made

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1) Soviet coast-guard vessel which had been damaged lightly in a collision, also was in the shipyard. The repairs will be paid for by the German Waterways Inspectorate in Rostock. The fishing cutters and four motor boats, length ranging from 9 to 14 meters, were under construction for the Border Police Department of the Main Administration of the Volkspolizei. They, as well as another 3 to 5 vessels, were to be converted for border control duties and, at the request of the Volkspolizei, had to be completed as quickly as possible, because all its coast guard vessels were unavailable. Most of these vessels were seized by the Volkspolizei when refugees attempted to reach the Swedish coast in them.

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3. Projects prepared in the shipyard included the construction of an icebreaker with an engine power of 1,500 HP, a projected length of 40.20 meters, a beam of 12 meters, a draft of 4 meters, a weight of about 250 tons and a speed of about 18 knots. The Main Administration of Sea Police in Berlin placed an order for preliminary designs for motor minesweepers and a guard vessel. The motor minesweepers were to be 50 meters long and the propelling plant was to be a diesel-engine or a turbine. The minimum speed was to be 13 knots. The guard vessel was to be 40 meters long, have a beam of 8 meters, two 400-HP diesel engines from the Duckau-Wolf firm in Magdeburg and to be seaworthy. Responsible for this project was a graduate engineer Friedrich (fnu) of the Main Administration of the Sea Police, who formerly was managing engineer of the Engelbrecht-Shipyard in Berlin-Koenigsberg. (3) An estimate for about 100 surfboats, with and without internal combustion engines, according to plans by orderer, was demanded by the Sea Police in Schwerin. (4) The shipyard is now negotiating with the Vereinigung Volkseigener Betriebe Fischwirtschaft (Union of Nationalized Fishery Plants

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(VWBF), in Sassnitz on Ruegen Island, for the construction of a 500-ton floating dock and a 24-knot fishery inspection vessel and believes that the order for the fishery inspection vessel will be placed while the construction of the floating dock appears to be more difficult because of lack of materials.

Comments.

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(1) The WAK firm, Maschinenbau Kiel Aktiengesellschaft, Kiel-Friedrichsort.

(3) Friedrich is not known.

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(4) The term "surfboats" is not definitely clear and may mean an engineer assault boat.

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